

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SY-05

AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 SCCT-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01

SAB-01 ACDA-07 SSM-03 AID-05 /127 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7045

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1704

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:ASEC

SUBJECT: EPS COVERAGE - NEW YORK CITY

1. USUN HAS ONCE AGAIN REVIEWED EXECUTIVE PROTECTIVE SERVICE (EPS) COVERAGE IN NEW YORK CITY AND HAS CONCLUDED IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT COVERAGE PRESENTLY IN EFFECT SHOULD BE CONTINUED BEYOND APRIL 30, 1976. POSTS CURRENTLY MAINTAINED BY EPS ARE MISSIONS OF JORDAN, LEBANON, SYRIA, AND ISRAEL AND OBSERVER OFFICES OF PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO) AND ARAB LEAGUE. ALL POSTS ARE ABOVE STREET LEVEL AND ARE MANNED DURING BUSINESS HOURS ONLY MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY.

2. SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST CONTINUES TO BE A VOLATILE ONE. ANY DETERIORATION OF THE FRAGILE SITUATION THERE COULD HAVE A SERIOUS EFFECT ON ARAB MISSIONS AND THEIR PERSONNEL IN NEW YORK CITY. JEWISH DEFENSE LEAGUE (JDL) AND OTHER MILITANT ANTI-ARAB GROUPS HAVE INTENSIFIED THEIR ACTS OF VIOLENCE. JEWISH ARMED RESISTANCE HAS RECENTLY TAKEN CREDIT FOR SHOOTINGS INTO DIPLOMATIC ESTABLISHMENTS IN NEW YORK CITY AND HAS VOWED TO CONTINUE SUCH ATTACKS. SINCE THE PREVIOUS JUSTIFICATION FOR EPS COVERAGE THERE HAS BEEN A KIDNAPPING THREAT AGAINST THE CHILDREN OF ACTING
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PERMANENT OBSERVER OF PLO AND AN ANONYMOUS THREAT ON LIFE

OF DEPUTY PERMANENT OBSERVER OF PLO, WHILE PLO OFFICE ITSELF HAS BEEN RECIPIENT OF AN ANONYMOUS BOMB THREAT. JDL HAS STATED IN A LETTER WRITTEN TO STATE DEPARTMENT'S SYRIAN DESK THAT THAT ORGANIZATION WOULD TURN ITS ATTENTION FROM SOVIET JEWRY QUESTION "TO THE PLIGHT OF THE JEWS OF SYRIA AND OTHER ARAB LANDS." THERE IS AN UPCOMING SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON EXTENSION OF UN MILITARY PRESENCE IN GOLAN HEIGHTS (UNDOF), WHICH MAY CARRY REPERCUSSIONS THAT COULD EFFECT SECURITY OF ARAB DIPLOMATS IN THIS CITY.

3. USUN CONTINUES IN ITS STRONG OPINION THAT EPS PRESENCE IN NEW YORK IS A DEFINITE DETERRENT TO HARASSEMENT AND VIOLENCE AGAINST THOSE ESTABLISHMENTS TO WHICH THEY ARE ASSIGNED. WE BELIEVE DETERRENT EFFECT OF EPS AND IMPORTANT DEMONSTRATION OF USG CONCERN MANIFESTED BY THEIR PRESENCE REQUIRES NOT MERELY MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING CONTINGENT BUT SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE OF EPS PERSONNEL IN NYC. WE ALSO BELIEVE DEPT SHOULD POSITION ITSELF SO THAT EPS MAY BE PROMPTLY SENT TO NEW YORK WHEN NEEDED UNDER SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURES OF PL 94-196.

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